

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 July 2005 (28.07.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/067992 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61L 27/30**,
27/50, 27/04, A61F 2/00

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/AU2005/000055

(22) International Filing Date: 19 January 2005 (19.01.2005)

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(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2004900202 19 January 2004 (19.01.2004) AU

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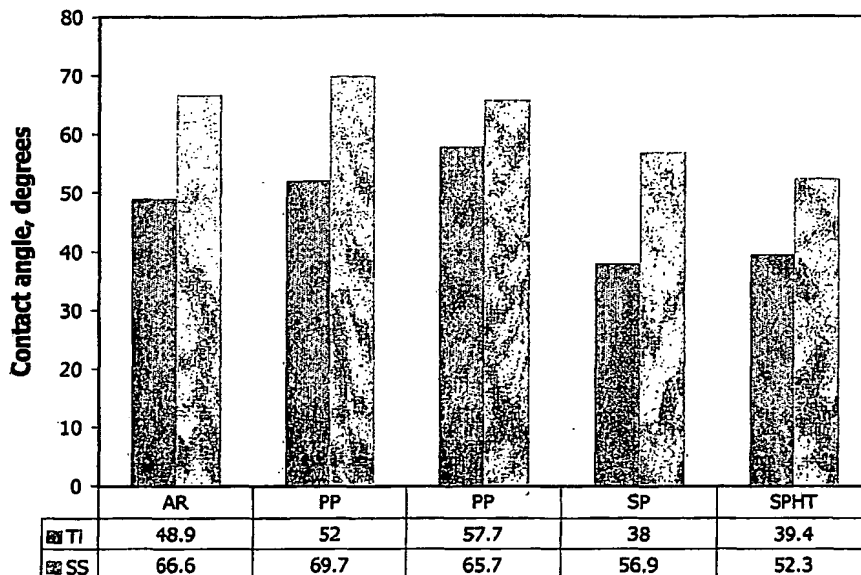
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(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **BIOACTIVE COATING OF BIOMEDICAL IMPLANTS**



(57) Abstract: A method of forming a bioactive coating on a biomedical implant, the method including the step of contacting at least part of the surface of the implant prior to implantation with a plasma gas containing a reactive hydroxylating oxidant species. The step of contacting the surface of the implant prior to implantation with a plasma gas containing a reactive hydroxylating oxidant species may be preceded by a step of exposing the implant to an organosilane or organosilicate species to form a silica coating on at least part of the implant prior to contact with the oxidant species.

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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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